

# Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) Improvement & Sustainability Plan

*Presented to the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee*

Karen Allen  
PSIC Project Manager

*August 14, 2012*



Public Safety Interoperable  
Communications Office

# AIRS Expansion



- The initial AIRS build out is complete providing basic interoperable communications to all 15 counties
- Agencies have expressed interest in expanding the current AIRS coverage to meet their interoperability needs
- The Draft Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) Improvement & Sustainability Plan was created to establish requirements for the integration of locally procured AIRS site infrastructure into the current AIRS system
- We seek your comment today on this Draft Procedure. The Draft procedure documents the responsibilities for:
  - Requesting Agency
  - DPS
  - SIEC/PSIC

# Adding a Site – Draft Agency Responsibilities



- An agency interested in expanding the current AIRS coverage in their region is responsible for:
  - Funding
  - Site Permissions / Acquisitions
  - Equipment Purchases
  - Installations
  - Ongoing Maintenance
- The agency is responsible for determining site location, availability and access
  - AIRS County wide coverage maps as well as .KML data files from the AIRS drive test should be reviewed on the PSIC website [www.azpsic.gov/library/airs/drive\\_test.htm](http://www.azpsic.gov/library/airs/drive_test.htm)

# Adding a Site – Draft Agency Responsibilities



- An agency must complete DPS coordination prior to project implementation to ensure agencies are in compliance with the current AIRS suite requirements
  - A Site Application form must be submitted to DPS, who will assign a Telecommunications Engineer to meet with the requesting agency to assist with potential interference, provide coverage maps and recommendations
  - DPS will provide the requesting agency with backhaul and minimum equipment specifications
  - Interested agencies must complete an IGA with DPS
- The agency shall notify the PSIC Office of any planned Homeland Security grant requests for the project

# Draft Ongoing Maintenance Responsibilities



- Each site and each piece of equipment is considered “owned” by the installing agency requiring the agency to:
  - Be responsible for maintenance and repair of all site infrastructure and equipment for the life of the site
  - Hold maintenance contracts at the agency’s discretion (regardless the owner is responsible for their equipment)
  - Report equipment and location issues to the DPS Network Operations Center (NOC) as soon as feasible
  - Make repairs as soon as possible
  - Perform preventative maintenance no less than once a year, preferably twice a year
  - Maintain critical spare parts for the equipment

# Draft Support Documentation



- An agency shall provide notifications to ensure affected jurisdictions are aware of the potential project and have adequate opportunity to provide input. Copies of these notifications should be sent to the SIEC.
- An agency should gather support letters from the following entities for the SIEC review for approval packet:
  - AZ Department of Homeland Security Regional Advisory Council
  - The Regional Interoperability Committee (RIC), or in its absence, neighboring agencies/jurisdictions

# Draft DPS Responsibilities



- DPS will maintain expansion site documentation, to include infrastructure equipment configuration, hardware and software
- DPS must maintain information on the overall status of the AIRS system
- DPS must maintain 24/7 contact information for all AIRS sites
- DPS must keep maintenance and repair records for all AIRS sites

# Draft Documentation Submittal



- For SIEC approval, the agency must submit the following, at least six weeks prior to an SIEC meeting [Note: SIEC meets five times per year]:
  - A letter from the requesting agency, outlining the expansion project, including:
    - » Proposed location
    - » The agency single point of contact for the project
    - » Funding mechanism and project budget
  - A DPS signed AIRS MOU
  - DPS approved Site Application Form
  - DPS input and system documentation, design and equipment list
  - A draft AIRS IGA negotiated with DPS (pending project approval by SIEC prior to signature)
  - Documentation of notifications to neighboring agencies
  - Support letters from the AZ Department of Homeland Security Regional Advisory Council
  - Support letters from the Regional Interoperability Committee (RIC), and/or neighboring agencies



# Draft Review Process



- The documentation packet must be submitted to the PSIC Office six weeks before the next SIEC meeting
- The PSIC Office will distribute and post non-confidential project information to the PSIC Office website for a two week public comment period
  - The PSIC Office will provide comments received from the public to the requesting agency and DPS and such comments will be included in the SIEC packet
- SIEC Technical Workgroup will review all submitted paperwork, including public comments
  - The SIEC Technical Workgroup will present findings to the SIEC with a recommended course of action

# Draft SIEC Approval Process



- The PSIC Office will place the request on the next SIEC agenda
- SIEC will review all documentation and public comments
- The requesting agency is encouraged to attend the SIEC meeting to provide answers/clarifications to the SIEC
- The PSIC Office will submit a letter to the requesting agency indicating if the SIEC approved or denied the request or if additional information is needed

# Proposed Next Steps



- Feedback from today's meeting will be incorporated into the Draft Procedure
- The revised Draft Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) Improvement & Sustainability Plan will be posted on the PSIC website for Public Review for two weeks
- The approval Draft of the Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) Improvement & Sustainability Plan and associated feedback will be presented at the next SIEC meeting for possible approval

## Further Discussion; Feedback; Questions?

Thank you – Karen Allen  
[Karen.Allen@azdoa.gov](mailto:Karen.Allen@azdoa.gov)